

# Children and Families Act 2014

## **2014 CHAPTER 6**

## PART 3

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN ENGLAND WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OR DISABILITIES

Appeals, mediation and dispute resolution

## 53 Mediation: health care issues

- (1) This section applies where—
  - (a) the parent or young person informs the local authority under section 52 that he or she wishes to pursue mediation, and
  - (b) the mediation issues include health care provision specified in the plan or the fact that no health care provision, or no health care provision of a particular kind, is specified in the plan.

(2) The local authority must notify each relevant commissioning body of-

- (a) the mediation issues, and
- (b) anything of which it has been informed by the parent or young person under section 52(4).
- (3) If the mediation issues are limited to the health care provision specified in the plan or the fact that no health care provision, or no health care provision of a particular kind, is specified in the plan, the responsible commissioning body (or, where there is more than one, the responsible commissioning bodies acting jointly) must—
  - (a) arrange for mediation between it (or them) and the parent or young person,
  - (b) ensure that the mediation is conducted by an independent person, and
  - (c) participate in the mediation.
- (4) If the mediation issues include anything else—
  - (a) the local authority must—

- (i) arrange for mediation between it, each responsible commissioning body and the parent or young person,
- (ii) ensure that the mediation is conducted by an independent person, and (iii) participate in the mediation, and
- (b) each responsible commissioning body must also participate in the mediation.
- (5) For the purposes of this section, a person is not independent if he or she is employed by any of the following—
  - (a) a local authority in England;
  - (b) a clinical commissioning group;
  - (c) the National Health Service Commissioning Board.
- (6) In this section "responsible commissioning body"—
  - (a) if the mediation issues in question are or include the health care provision specified in an EHC plan, means a body that is under a duty to arrange health care provision of that kind in respect of the child or young person;
  - (b) if the mediation issues in question are or include the fact that no health care provision, or no health care provision of a particular kind, is specified in an EHC plan, means a body that would be under a duty to arrange health care provision of the kind in question if it were specified in the plan.

#### **Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

C1 S. 53(1)(a)(3)(a)(4)(a)(i) modified (1.9.2014) by The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014 (S.I. 2014/1530), regs. 1, 64(1)(b), 64(2), Sch. 3 Pt. 2

#### **Commencement Information**

S. 53 in force at 1.9.2014 by S.I. 2014/889, art. 7(a) (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2014/2270 (as amended (1.4.2015) by S.I. 2015/505 and (1.9.2015) by S.I. 2015/1619)

## Status:

Point in time view as at 01/09/2014. This version of this provision has been superseded.

## Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Children and Families Act 2014, Section 53.